



In 1848 a plague of crickets threatened to destroy the crops of the Saints. In answer to fervent prayer, the Lord sent seagulls to stop the crickets, as depicted in this painting.

- What was the special calling of each prophet who headed one of the major dispensations of the gospel?

The priesthood and the full gospel of the kingdom were lost from the earth in the period of the Great Apostasy.

- According to President Young, why was Christ's early Church withdrawn from the earth?
- What are some evidences that Christ's early Church and priesthood were lost from the earth? (See also Joseph Smith—History 1:17–20.) What did members of the early Church do to wander “so far from the path of truth”? How has the priesthood been a “means of finding out what is true and what is not true” in your life?

The Lord has restored His gospel and priesthood authority in this final dispensation through the Prophet Joseph Smith.

- God communicated His truth to a meek, lowly youth of humble origin, a “sincere enquirer after the knowledge of God.” What does this mean for you and all others who sincerely seek the truth?
- What characteristics did Joseph have that helped him fulfill his calling to be “the man, in the last dispensation of this world, to bring forth the word of God to the people”?
- What role does the Book of Mormon have in the restoration of the gospel? (See also D&C 20:6–16.) What can you learn from Oliver Cowdery's testimony of the Book of Mormon?
- What was President Young's testimony concerning “the business of the Latter-day Saints”?